

CLASSIFICATION

S-E-C-R-E-T

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 8 August 1955

25X1

SUBJECT Special Trade Bureau for the Purchase of
Goods from the West for Dollars

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF
INFOSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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On 12 May 1955, it was learned at the Deutsche Warenvertriebsgesellschaft (German Sales Company) (DWV) in East Berlin that the "Sonderkontor DWV" (special bureau) was in charge of negotiations for canned meats from Western countries for cash. In addition to normal export business of the GDR, the DWV reportedly established a special bureau which was to buy various goods from Western countries for dollars. For this purpose, the GDR allegedly received a loan of 40 million dollars from the USSR. The following products were to be bought: sausage and canned meats for 15 million dollars, leather and hides for 10 million dollars, textile raw materials including wool, rayon and hemp for 10 million dollars and various goods including embargo goods for 5 million dollars. DWV employees had the impression that the goods furnished by this special order were intended for troops of the GDR. The goods to be bought had not yet been itemized and orders for the conclusion of contracts with individual firms were to be issued only after the Warsaw Conference of the Eastern Bloc Countries.

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9. SOURCE OF INFORMATION	10. DATE OF INFORMATION	11. DATE OF REPORT	12. DATE OF REVIEW

THIS IS UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION

On 12 May 1955, it was learned at the Deutsche Handelsvertriebsgesellschaft (German Sales Company) (DGV) in East Berlin that the "Spezialkontor DGV" (special bureau) was in charge of negotiations for special trade from Western countries for cash. In addition to normal export business of the GDR, the DGV reportedly established a special bureau which was to buy various goods from Western countries for dollars. For this purpose, the GDR allegedly received a loan of 40 million dollars from the USSR. The following products were to be bought: sausage and canned meats for 15 million dollars, leather and hides for 10 million dollars, textile raw materials including wool, rayon and hemp for 10 million dollars and various goods including embargo goods for 5 million dollars. DGV employees had the impression that the goods furnished by this special order were intended for troops of the GDR. The goods to be bought had not yet been itemized and orders for the conclusion of contracts with individual firms were to be issued only after the Warsaw Conference of the Eastern-Bloc Countries.

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